

Activities

The Commission was established by Congress on October 1, 1979, to carry out the responsibilities of the United States with respect to the Panama Canal under the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977. In fulfilling these obligations, the Commission manages, operates, and maintains the Canal, its complementary works, installations, and equipment, and provides for the orderly transit of vessels through the Canal. This U.S. agency will perform these functions until the treaty terminates on December 31, 1999, at which time the Republic of Panama will assume full responsibility for the Canal.

Sources of Information

Marine Operations Director, Marine Bureau, Panama. Phone, 011-507-272-4500.

Economic and Marketing Information Director, Office of Executive Planning, Panama. Phone, 011-507-272-7961.

Procurement Office of Logistical Support, 4400 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA 70146-6800. Phone, 504-678-5299.

Panama Canal Commission Unit 2300, APO AA 34011-2300. Telex, 3034 PCCAMRM PG.

For further information, contact the Office of the Secretary, Panama Canal Commission, Suite 1050, 1825 Eye Street NW., Washington, DC 20006-5402. Phone, 202-634-6441. Fax, 202-634-6439. E-mail, pancanalwo@aol.com.

PEACE CORPS

1990 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20526
Phone (Locator), 202-606-3886

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[For the Peace Corps statement of organization, see the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 22, Part 302]

The Peace Corps' purpose is to promote world peace and friendship, to help other countries in meeting their needs for trained men and women, and to promote

understanding between the American people and other peoples served by the Peace Corps. The Peace Corps Act emphasizes the Peace Corps commitment toward programming to meet the basic needs of those living in the countries where volunteers work.

The Peace Corps was established by the Peace Corps Act of 1961, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2501), and was made an independent agency by title VI of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1981 (22 U.S.C. 2501–1).

The Peace Corps consists of a Washington, DC, headquarters; 11 area offices; and overseas operations in more than 90 countries. Its presence in foreign countries fluctuates as programs are added or withdrawn.

Activities

To fulfill the Peace Corps mandate, men and women are trained for a 9- to 14-week period in the appropriate local language, the technical skills necessary for their particular job, and the cross-cultural skills needed to adjust to a society with traditions and attitudes different from their own. Volunteers serve for a period of 2 years, living among the people with whom they work. Volunteers are expected to become a part of the community through their voluntary service.

Thousands of volunteers serve throughout Central and South America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, Ukraine, the Baltics, and Central Asia. They work in six program areas, including: education, agriculture, health, small business development, urban

development, and the environment.

Community-level projects are designed to incorporate the skills of volunteers with the resources of host-country agencies and other international assistance organizations to help solve specific development problems, often in conjunction with private volunteer organizations.

In the United States, the Peace Corps is working to promote an understanding of people in other countries. Through its World Wise Schools Program, volunteers are matched with elementary and junior high schools in the United States to encourage an exchange of letters, pictures, music, and artifacts. Participating students increase their knowledge of geography, languages, and different cultures, while gaining an appreciation for voluntarism.

The Peace Corps offers other domestic programs involving former volunteers, universities, local public school systems, and private businesses and foundations in a partnership to help solve some of the United States most pressing domestic problems.

The Peace Corps Office of Private Sector Relations works with schools, civic groups, businesses, and neighborhood and youth organizations in the United States to facilitate their support of Peace Corps initiatives here and abroad.

Area Offices—Peace Corps

Office	Address	Telephone
Atlanta, GA (AL, FL, GA, MS, SC, TN)	Rm. 2324, 101 Marietta St. NW., 30323	404-331-2932
Boston, MA (MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)	Rm. 450, 10 Causeway St., 02222	617-565-5555
Chicago, IL (IL, IN, KY, MI, MO, OH)	Suite 450, 55 W. Monroe St., 60603	312-353-4990
Dallas, TX (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)	Rm. 230, 400 N. Ervay St., P.O. Box 638, 75221 ...	214-767-5435
Denver, CO (CO, KS, NE, UT, WY)	Rm. 550, 140 E. 19th Ave., 80203	303-866-1057
Los Angeles, CA (AZ, southern CA)	Suite 8104, 11000 Wilshire Blvd., 90024	310-235-7444
Minneapolis, MS (IA, MN, ND, SD, WI)	Suite 420, 330 2d Ave. S., 55401	612-348-1480
New York, NY (CT, NJ, NY, PA, PR)	Rm. 611, 6 World Trade Ctr., 10048	212-466-2477
Arlington, VA (DC, DE, MD, NC, VA, WV)	Suite 400, 1400 Wilson Blvd., 22209	703-235-9191
San Francisco, CA (northern CA, HI, NV)	Suite 600, 333 Market St., 94105	415-977-8800
Seattle, WA (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA)	Rm. 1776, 2001 6th Ave., 98121	206-553-5490

Sources of Information**Becoming a Peace Corps Volunteer**

Contact the nearest area office. Phone, 800-424-8580, extension 2293 (toll-free).

Employment Contact the Peace Corps, Office of Human Resource Management, Washington, DC 20526. Phone, 202-

606-3950. For recorded employment opportunities, call 202-606-3214.

General Inquiries Information or assistance may be obtained by contacting the Peace Corps' Washington, DC, headquarters or any of its area offices. Frequently, information is available from local post offices.

For further information, contact the Press Office, Peace Corps, 1990 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20526. Phone, 202-606-3010; or 800-424-8580 (toll-free). Fax, 202-606-3108.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005
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